

### REMARKS

In response to the Examiner's Action mailed on December 22, 2003, claims 1 to 4, 7 to 9, 16 to 22 are amended. The applicant hereby respectfully requests that the patent application be reconsidered.

An item-by-item response to Examiner's objections or rejections is provided in the followings:

1. *Claim Rejection – 35 USC 112*

The Examiner rejects claims 1, and 2 under 35 USC 112 first paragraph as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and/or use the invention.

Specifically, the Examiner states that the phrase, “ a user's presence at a location associated with one of said forwarding destination numbers” is not disclosed by the specification. The Examiner points out that the new presence as detected by the user's presence identification device as associated with one of said forward destination numbers, i.e., a pre-existing forwarding number, is not described.

The Applicant would like to draw the attention of the Examiner to the paragraph on page 10 lines 17 to 34:

To further enhance the communication by calling the unified access number 140, a user presence identification device 150 is used in **home, office, and car** to identify the **presence of the owner of the unified access number**. The user's presence identification may be implement with a video camera and a simple identification verification processor to positively identify the presence of the owner of the unified access number. The user presence identification device 150 may be implemented on a cellular phone also by sending a database update signal when a user turns on the power of a cellular phone. Upon detecting the user's presence, a signal is sent to the unified access management center 120 to automatically update the database for forwarding

the telephone call to the location where the user of this unified access number is located now. The unified access owner is not required to re-edit the database when there is a sudden change of schedule such as go home from earlier for particular reasons. A telephone call to the unified access number 140 will then be forwarded to the cellular phone in the car when the owner 105 is driving home and then forwarded to home when the user 105 arrives home and detected by the user presence identification device 150.

The above descriptions clearly describe that the user's presence identification device is disposed at home, office or car. Each of these locations is clearly associated with a "forward destination number". Therefore, the claims as now amended are clearly supported and fully described in the Detail Descriptions of the Preferred Embodiments as disclosed in the present Patent Application.

**2. *Rejection of Claims Under 35 USC 103(a):***

The Examiner rejects claims 2-6, 10-14, 16 to 22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as the inventions directed by these claims are unpatentable over Rogers in view of Grimes et al.

In response to the rejections, claims 1 to 3, 16 to 18, 20 to 21 are amended. The amended claim 2 now is now directed to a telephonic communication system that includes:

- a) a message routing means for controlling and delivering a telephonic message to a plurality of destinations;
- b) a database for providing to said message routing means a unified access number and a first forwarding destination number for a first list of callers to forward a telephone message sent to said unified access number from said first list of callers to said first forwarding destination number;
- c) said database further includes a user interface means for a telephone user to edit said database for entering said unified access number and said first forwarding destination number for said first list of callers; and
- d) a user presence detecting means disposed at a location associated with one of said forwarding destination numbers for detecting a user's presence at said location for automatically

updating said database for modifying said forwarding destination numbers.

Claim 17 is also amended to direct to a network communication system that includes:

- a) a sender-specific database connected to a database-enabled message router wherein said database is a user editable database that allows a user of said network communication system to edit said database to control sender-specific message routes over said communication system to reach said user on a communication point on said network communication system; and
- b) a user presence detecting means disposed at a location associated with said communication point for detecting a user's presence at said location for automatically updating said database for modifying said sender-specific message routes over said communication system.

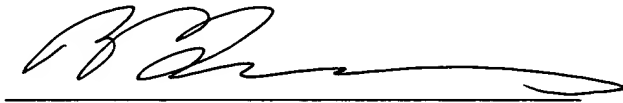
Since Grimes discloses a "*user location tracing means*" and does not disclose a "user presence detecting means, e.g., a video camera, to automatically detect the presence of a user and to automatically update the database, the amended claims 1, 17 and similarly claim 20 would be non-obvious in over Roger in view of Grimes. The claims as amended would be patentable.

The Applicant would respectfully draw the attention of the Examiner that Grimes discloses a "communication signal-transmitting device carried by a communication system user to indicate the location of that user relative to other wired or wireless communication device". Grimes disclose a "USER LOCATION TRACING DEVICE" wherein the user carrier a signal transmitting device to send out signals to notify the system the location of the user. There is no process of user presence detection. It trace the location of the user rather than detect the presence of the user. The claims as now amended more clearly and specifically dispose the user presence detection means at a location. Such user presence detection means is NOT a user location-tracing device and therefore are different from the device disclosed by Grimes. The amended claims would therefore novel and non-obvious and would be patent able over the cited prior art references.

With the amended claims and the reasons provided above, the applicant hereby respectfully requests that Examiner's rejections under 35 USC § 112, and 35 USC § 103 be withdrawn and the present application be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,  
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By



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